

**85237**

DATE May 25, 2021

TO: Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Norma V. Drummond  
Commissioner of Planning

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester to enter into a Grant Agreement with the New York State Office for Temporary and Disability Assistance to accept grant funds in a not-to-exceed amount of \$2,275,437.17 for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program

The attached resolution authorizes the County of Westchester, acting by and through the Department of Planning (the "Department"), to enter into a grant agreement (the "Grant Agreement") with the New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance ("OTADA") to accept funds to launch a wide-reach campaign to inform the public about the Emergency Rental Assistance Program ("ERAP") and support efforts to encourage eligible tenants and landlords to complete the application for such assistance, in a not-to-exceed amount of \$2,275,437.17, for the contract period January 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022. The grant funds will be used to conduct eligible activities to promote ERAP and encourage eligible tenants and landlords to complete the application to apply for rent arrears through the New York State portal.

A portion of these funds will be used to contract with United Way 2-1-1- and eleven (11) nonprofit housing organizations in Westchester to have them serve as ERAP hubs for households to seek assistance. Eligible activities include, but are not limited to, outreach and education on ERAP, providing opportunities for households to complete the application through the New York State portal, design and production and distribution of marketing and educational materials, and staffing of ERAP hubs.

The goal and objective of the Grant Agreement is to ensure that every eligible household that owes rent arrears applies for assistance. New York State will be administering the program statewide through the allocation of funds from the United States Treasury.

This is one-time special grant. There are no regulations, just guidance from the US Treasury and New York State that we have and are working from.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to, all applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications and grant agreements (including any master grant agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the "Grant Terms"), b) has reviewed the Grant Terms, c) is aware of and understands all the Grant Terms, and d) can and will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

In view of the importance of this program to stabilizing the housing of lower income rental households, I recommend approval of the attached resolution.

NVD/cp  
Attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 05/27/2021 - LISA MRIJAJ, SECRETARY

**RESOLUTION**

UPON A COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSIONER OF PLANNING, BE IT HEREBY

RESOLVED: the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement (the “Grant Agreement”) with New York State Office of Temporary and Disability Assistance to accept grant funds in a not-to-exceed amount of \$2,275,437.17 to launch a wide-reach campaign to inform the public about the Emergency Rental Assistance program (“ERAP”) and support efforts to encourage eligible tenants and landlords to complete the application for such assistance for the contract period January 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022; and it is further

RESOLVED: that the Grant Agreement will provide funds that will be used for activities including, but not limited to, funding a bi-lingual staff position at the United Way 2-1-1 and funding ERAP assistance hubs at eleven (11) nonprofit agencies in Westchester that will be able to assist households and landlords with submitting applications through the New York State portal; and it is further

RESOLVED: that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is authorized to execute any documents and take any actions necessary to effectuate purposes hereof.

Account to be Charged/Credited

		Major Program, Program & Phase	Object/	Trust	
Fund	Dept	Or Unit	Sub Object	Account	Dollars
01	19	0100	9854		\$2,275,437.17

Budget Funding Year(s) FY 2021 Start Date January 1, 2021 End Date September 30, 2022  
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source

Tax Dollars \_\_\_\_\_  
 State Aid \$2,275,437.17  
 Federal Aid \_\_\_\_\_  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

**\$2,275,437.17**  
 (Must match resolution)